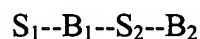


Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 11 (canceled).

New Claims 12 to 26:

12. (new): A bituminous composition comprising a bituminous component and a block copolymer, said block copolymer comprising at least two blocks of a conjugated diene and at least two blocks of a monovinylaromatic hydrocarbon of the general formula:



wherein  $B_1$  is a block of polymerized conjugated diene comprising at least 50 mole% isoprene having an apparent molecular weight of from 180,000 to 400,000,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are blocks of polymerized monovinylaromatic hydrocarbon having a weight average molecular weight of 12,000 to 40,000, and  $B_2$  is a block of polymerized conjugated diene comprising at least 50 mole% isoprene having an apparent molecular weight of from 15,000 to 60,000; wherein the weight ratio  $W$  of  $B_1$  over  $B_2$  is in the range of 3.0 to 12.0; and wherein the content of polymerized monovinylaromatic hydrocarbon is in the range from 10 to 35 %wt.

13. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein polymer blocks  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  each independently comprise at least 80 mole% isoprene

14. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein polymer blocks  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  each independently comprise at least 99 mole% isoprene.

15. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein polymer blocks  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  each independently comprise at least 80 mole% styrene.

16. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 15, wherein polymer blocks S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> each independently comprise at least 99 mole% styrene.

17. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein polymer block B<sub>1</sub> has an apparent molecular weight of from 250,000 to 350,000.

18. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein polymer blocks S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> each independently have a molecular weight of from 20,000 to 35,000.

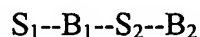
19. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein the weight ratio W is in the range of from about 4.0 to about 8.0.

20. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein the weight ratio W is about 6.0.

21. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, which comprises on the total weight of the bituminous composition from 70 to 95 w% of the bituminous component and from 30 to 5 w% of the block copolymer.

22. (new): The bituminous composition of claim 12, wherein the bituminous component has a penetration of less than 300 dmm (decamilimeters) at 25 °C.

23. (new): A block copolymer which comprises at least two blocks of a conjugated diene and at least two blocks of a monovinylaromatic hydrocarbon, being of the general formula:



wherein B<sub>1</sub> is a block of polymerized conjugated diene comprising at least 50 mole% isoprene having an apparent molecular weight of from 180,000 to 400,000, S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> are blocks of polymerized monovinylaromatic hydrocarbon having a weight average molecular weight of 12,000 to 40,000, and B<sub>2</sub> is a block of polymerized conjugated diene comprising at least 50 mole% isoprene having an apparent molecular weight of from

15,000 to 60,000; wherein the weight ratio  $W$  of  $B_1$  over  $B_2$  is in the range of 3.0 to 12.0; and wherein the content of polymerized monovinylaromatic hydrocarbon is in the range from 10 to 35 %wt.

24. (new): The use of the bituminous composition of claim 12 as a coating.

25. (new): A coating comprising the bituminous composition of claim 12.

26. (new): A self-adhesive shingle or roofing felt membrane comprising a substrate or mat to which has been applied the composition of claim 12.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of newly added claims 12 to 26.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 23, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donna Blalock Holguin', is written over a horizontal line.

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